

1946



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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE
Borough of
Clifton Dartmouth Hardness

A. DICK, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

W. H. JEFFORD, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Sanitary Officer, Meat Inspector, etc.
(Retired 31st May, 1946)

K. E. EVANS, M.S.I.A.
(Commenced 1st June, 1946)

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Medical Officer of Health

for 1946.

*To the Worshipful the Mayor and Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Clifton Dartmouth Hardness.*

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1946.

The Birth Rate, 17·53 per 1000 resident population, is lower than for the year 1945. The Death Rate at 14·70 is also lower.

Infectious Disease. There was no prevalence of any infectious disease. Generally, the health of the Borough was very good.

Diphtheria Immunisation. Seventy-six children aged 1 to 5 years and 4 children aged 5 to 15 years were fully protected. The immunising agent used was Alum Precipitated Toxide, in two injections of 0.3 and 0.5 c.c. No ill effects have been reported.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Based on the Registrar General's figures.

Area in acres—1925.

Population census in 1931—6707.

Estimated Population—5646.

Number of inhabited houses, about 1589.

Rateable value—£51,236.

Sum represented by 1d. rate—£200.

Vital Statistics.

	Total	M	F		
Live Births	91	48	43	Birth Rate per 1000	
} Legitimate	8	6	2	of estimated resident	
} Illegitimate	—	—	—	population	... 17.53
	99	54	45		
Still Births	1	1	2	Rate per 1000 total	
				(live & Still Births)	19.80
Deaths	83	44	39	Death Rate per 1000	
				of the estimated	
				population	... 14.70

Deaths from puerperal causes :

	Deaths		
Puerperal Sepsis	0	Rate per 1000 total (Live & Still Births)	00
Other Puerperal Causes	0		00

	M	F	Total
Deaths of Infants under one year :	0	2	2
Death Rate of Infants per 1000 Live Births			20.20

Deaths from Typhoid	—	0
" Cancer	—	21
" Measles	—	0
" Whooping Cough	—	0
" Diarrhoea (under 2)	—	1
" Poliomyelitis	—	0
" Erysipelas	—	0
" Pneumonia	—	1
" Scarlet Fever	—	0
" Diphtheria	—	1
" Influenza	—	1
" Bronchitis	—	1
" Other Res. Dis.	—	0
" Tuberculosis	—	5
" Syphilitic	—	0
" Intra-Cran. vasc. lesions	—	14
" Heart	—	19
" Other dis. of circ. syst.	—	3
" Ulcer of Stomach	—	0
" Diabetes	—	1
" Appendicitis	—	0
" Other digve. dis.	—	2
" Nephritis	—	3
" Con. Mal. birth Inj. infant	—	2
" Violent Causes	—	2
" All other causes	—	6

M—44 F—39=83

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

There are 9 Wholesale Producers and 13 Retailers registered. Dairies have been inspected 11 times and Cowsheds 20 times.

Slaughterhouses.

There are 2 licensed slaughterhouses (closed since control by M. of F.) and a public abattoir. (See Meat Inspection).

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

(a) Council Houses Infested	...	...	0
(b) Other Houses Infested	...	...	3
(c) Disinfestation	...	...	3
Bedding, etc. destroyed	...	...	3

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

National Advisory Milk Testing Scheme.

Sampling for cleanliness testing continues to be undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Periodic sampling for presence of Tubercle infection has been commenced. All samples have been negative.

Water Supplies.

Supply has been adequate. Chlorination has been continued at the main source as a final treatment after filtration, but owing to subsequent mixing by smaller untreated auxiliary supplies, satisfactory chlorination of the final water is very difficult. Frequent tests for residual chlorine in the tap water have been made.

The Water Engineer has put in practice the taking of samples monthly for bacteriological examination. A more accurate and up-to-date knowledge of the purity of the various sources of the Borough is now available and purification by chlorination varied accordingly.

Housing.

Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects	...	...	67
Number of houses in which defects were remedied by Informal Notices	...	...	42

Action under Statutory Powers.

No. of houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repair under Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	5
No. rendered fit after service of Statutory Notice :				
(a) By Owners	...	...	...	2
(b) By Local Authority in default	...	...	...	3
No. of houses in respect of which Notices were served under Public Health Act	...	...	...	4
No. of houses in which defects were remedied after service of Statutory Notice :				
(a) By Owners	...	...	...	4
(b) By Local Authority in default	...	...	...	0
Numbers of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	1
Number of parts of dwellings in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	3

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

	No. of Inspection s	No. of Written Notices	No. of Prosecu- tions
Factories (with Mechanical Power)	11	0	0
Factories (without Mechanical Power)	4	0	0
	<hr/> 15	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 0

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hosp.
Scarlet Fever	6	6
Chickenpox	10	0
Diphtheria	0	0
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0
Pneumonia	1	0
Erysipelas	1	0
Measles	5	0
Whooping Cough	5	0
Malaria	1	0
Dysentery	3	0
	<hr/> 32	<hr/> 6

CASES ADMITTED TO ISOLATION HOSPITAL, KINGS ASH,
PAIGNTON, from Dartmouth Borough during 1944 :

Total number of cases : 6 Scarlet Fever.

Tuberculosis.

The number of cases on the Register at the end of
the year was :—

		Male.	Female.	Total.
Pulmonary	...	19	13	32
Non-Pulmonary	...	4	3	7

In conclusion, may I pay tribute to the character and
work of Mr. W. H. Jefford, your Sanitary Inspector, who
retired this year ; and express my appreciation of these and
give sincere thanks for his valuable help and happy
co-operation throughout many years.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. DICK,

M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health and

Medical Officer of the Infant Welfare Centre.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Report for the year ending the 31st December, 1946.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

No. of food animals slaughtered at the	
Abattoir 	7783

Amount charged to the Ministry for	
slaughtering and rental of offices ..	£422 7 10

Weight of meat condemned :

Carcases and parts	.. 23,318 lbs.
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Offal 23,870 lbs.
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Total	47,188 lbs
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Causes of Condemnation. Tuberculosis, Fevered Flesh, Oedema, Immaturity Emaciation, Pyæmia, Bruising, Congestion, Parasitic Invasion, Septic Plenrisy, Caries, Moribund, Angioma, Cirrhosis, Pneumonia, Abscesses.

OTHER FOODS.

Tinned meat, fish, tinned milks, etc. :

Weight condemned, 3250 lbs.

MILK SAMPLES.

10 samples were submitted for the Methylene Blue keeping-quality test, of which number 9 milks passed. Nine samples were submitted for T.B. examination, from which 8 negative results were obtained, 1 being inconclusive.

FOOD PREMISES.

Twenty-five inspections were made of premises where food is prepared (bake houses, fishmongers, ice cream premises).

DISINFECTION.—22 Premises were fumigated and the bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected in the Town Council's disinfectory.

RAT AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919. INFESTATION ORDER, 280.—One operator engaged jointly between Dartmouth and Brixham.

During the year 272 bodies have been recovered from premises treated and 836 estimated killed.

Drainage Work.

Drains tested—13

Defective drains repaired or renewed—12.

K. E. EVANS, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

Meat & Sanitary Inspector
and Rodent Officer, etc.

